WHO IS THE FUNNIEST MAN?

IN PRIVATE LIFE.

Circles and Make the Rooms Ring With Laughter at Cinbe and Binner Parties -All Hard-working Mon, Who Enjoy Life and Make It Glad for Others.

When the thousands of men who had assembled to witness the Fitzsimmens Dempsey fight in New Orleans were idly waiting for the principals to appear, a man of the musical name of Patsy Doody vaulted in the ring and began to sing a New York street ballad called Since Casey Keeps the Flat." Doody is one nature and irrepressible bigh spirits. Funny stories, tunny sayings, and quaint expressions roll from him incessantly, so that he is the life sion in New Orleans an enormous crowd of men who would have presently soured and fallen to complaining of the delay, lost sight of ft and were made to roar with laughter and to stamp with gratitude. They threw money into the ring in silvery showers, and it is said that Mr. Doody picked up \$250 in small change for that half hour of humane labor.

Woe to any company-except of business men or reformers-that assembles in this city these days without some such light heart in the circle to unburden of their cares the rest of the gathering. No matter how well selected the company may be, it must be dismal unless entains at least one of those spirits whose t contains at least one or those spans first at alift it is to be able to put every one first at ease and then in good humor. Those who have the gift possess a magical faculty. It must be agercised without effort and without an exdistes and as wine cheers. But thus exersiend it will send a bad dinner down without a protest and it will condense a long evening inte a short and merry one. New York has many of these gay hearts.

these amateur comedians in private life, these manual content will cover up more defects in the e-ening's programme than there are sins that charity their kind are divisible into two classes, the withy and the funny, and the purpose here is to discover wan is the funniest of the funny map. As it would not be good taste to decide

mag. As it would not be good taste to decide the question, many of the most success-tip mirth provokers, in several walks of life, sie here ranged side by side, and the reader say determine for himself which one carries the palm, or he may pluck it to pieces and divide it among them all.

"It is taken for granted that Mr. Chauncey M. Depew's lighter side is due to a gift of wit rather than of fun. It was a high example of wit that he gave when he said: "The Puritans Rept Sunday and everything else they could put their bands on." So is Mr. Joseph H. Choate a wit rather than a funny man, as he showed at the Amberst dinner the other night when he invented this withy verse and wittily searibed its authorship to a Yale projector:

There was a young man of St. Losis.

There was a young man of St. Louis, Who married a quick-witted Jewess. He's so stuck on her sturies. That in her he glorias, And caus her a Chauncer Depewess.

That in her in a giories.

And casis her a channey Dapewess.

Judge Hewland, the most entertaining man in the Wall street district, is also purely witty, and so is Mr. Jenkins Van Schaick. Col. Ingersoil is witty when he is not sentimental, and, indeed, most of the after-dinner talkers of the town are so. Possibly J. Seaver Page ecoupies a middle ground between wit and fun. One of the distinctions between the witty men and the funny men is that whereas the witty men and the funny men is that whereas the witts are solely witty, the funny men are both humorous and witty. The fun of the funny men lies in their ability to minde and to tell follicking stories with diatest dialogue in them, in their proneness to catch their riends with tricks of languaux and twisted thoughts, to play practical jokes and to keep every sort of fun in perpetual motion. Incidentally they are witty, but the witty men may be said never to trespass on their ground. William J. Florence is a typical funny man, and since all the town knows him, he will serve to illustrate what is here meant by the term. Florence mimics, sings, tells amazing yarns, tells funny stories, plays pranks, and is able at any time to furnish amusement for a whole hotel or even a small town. The only trouble is that he is professionally a funny man, and the men to be etforth in this article are business men who are only funny in the evening or tetween strokes of work, as a mule kicks or a canary sings. It will be seen before the reader goes far that it is next to impossible to describe the fun of these mirth makers. No sort of fun will bear only funny in the company of most of the men here pletured and described, you will be certain of a jolly hour, but when it is all over you will not half the time be able to say what was said or done to please you; or if you can tell what it was, the telling of it will drag like sleigh runners on hare ground. Tudge Hewland, the most entertaining man in the Wall strest district, is also purely writty, and so is air. Jenking Van Schaick. Coll ingercoll is witty when ha is not sentimental and, indeed, most of the after-dinner talkers of the town are so. Possibly J. Seaver Page occuries a middle ground between wit and fun. One of the distinctions between the witty men and the funny men is that whereas the fits are solely witty, the funny men are both humorous and witty. The fun of the funny men lies is their ability to mimic and to telefolicking stories with distort dialogue in them, in their proneness to each their rise at the following stories with distort dialogue in the minic proneness to each their rise at the following stories with dialogue in the first of the proneness to each their rise at the following stories and to keep every sort of fun in persetual motion. Incidentally they are writte, but the witty men may be said never to treassas on their ground. William J. Florence is a typical funny man, and since all the town knows him, he will serve to illustrate what is here meant by the term. Florence minus, sings, tolls amazing yarns, tells funny stories, plays pranks, and is able at any time to furnish amusement for a whole hotel or even as small town. The only trouble is that he is professionally a funny man, and the men to be est forth in this article are business men who are only founy in the evening or between strokes. When the second in the strong or the second or the second in the strong or the second in the seco

Graham can, either one of them, keep a company more than amused for a whole evening. The greatest wit in the fraternity, however, is none of these. He is Homer Martin, a middle-agoil man now, of years enough to be Graham's or Kemble's father, a close friend of Whistler's, and a painter who made his fame a quarter of a century ago. In his day and in a smaller circle he was quoted as William B. Travers was in a larger circle; and he is every whit as funny as Travers was. He said when he told of a journey up the Rhine that it was "so much like a panorama that he didn't believe a bit of it." When a lady met him leaving his house on a Sunday moraling and asked if he was going to church he replied: "No, madam, I'm going to church he replied: "No, madam, I'm going to get some beer."

He was moderately fond of beer, as all his friends knew who met him at Pfaff's in the days of George Arnold and Harry Clapp and the Duchess." but the next question the lady addressed to him did not disturb him. "I hope you do not drink much beer."

"No, madam," he replied. "There is not much beer in New York."

"Thought you were going to church," said the persistent maron: "I hope you like to go to church." said Mr. Martin; "Indeed I do, madam." said Mr. Martin;



Rarin as Marin is older than Kemble, to say its least; in fact, Kemble is as much younger than Rarin as Marin is older than Kemble, to say its least; in fact, Kemble is one of the young-stief the successful artists of the day. Those which have not formed the excellent habit of working at the signature on every nicture they are and the successful artists of the well-say work, will recall it when they hear that he is successfully great in his portrayals of Southern darky characters and of humorous rustic figures, in the Century and S. Nicholas and to a least extent in Info and the other pictorials. He had a h. Frost are the two notable character artists and Kemble has given promise of going beyond Frost and taking up a serious endeavor to portray all the marked peculiarities of discrean ph. slognomies and figures. Helives if a treaty villa at New Rochelle, which is sufficiently handy to New York for him to drop in on, the town whenever there is anything going en that interests the artist brut erchood.

"He can be counted upon to say the very greenest things. Some of them are aproposed pithing, as when, the other day, he said they it would be funny if a typical Irishman instead of shathered, allow in the Bad Lands. Then it would be queer if the Irishman instead of shathered, alone in the Bad Lands. Then it would be speeces, you're alide. We he had allowed march up to the chief and look him allower admiringly, and say to him. Well, be speeces, you're alide. We would say, Umph. Orallala.

The new of helia would say, Imph. Orallala.

The the word lails would say, Umph. Orallala.

The has no patience with a course dinner, said Kemble: "the waits between the courses an arounce candle."

The coldness and fatness of all written jests is a dinner where the dishes come quick, like the balls in a roman candle."

where the dishes come quick. He the balls is a roman candle."

The coldness and flatness of all written jests is apparent in these quotations, which made these who heard them roar with laughter. One needs the modicum of wine, the blaze of light, the subtle magnetism of general enjoyment, the calm siter esting, and the unconscious resolution to be amused, no matter what happens, beene eas who reads these thing will be the transmission of the subtle made and the unconscious to the subtle made and the unconscious the subtle made and the unconscious the subtle made and the subtle mad

that they go. like the flash of a pretty woman's eves. But there are things that Kemble has done which show the force of his humor and of his genial personality, and show this rather in the consequences than in the things them selves. For instance, at an annual meeting of one of the principal artists clubs in town three or four years ago be got up with an uncommenty grave face an began a speech that esemed to be in earnest. It is of no use to repeat a word of it. The idea of it was that what the club needed was the suprort of millionaires. If a number of millionaires of the sum of millionaires who did not long to get within the sacred artist circle of good, ingenuous, talented, guileless fellows—if a number were admitted to life membership, say at \$500 membership fee, the club would soon have an a undant surplus in its treasury. He therefore moved that a clause be added to the constitution making it possible for millionaires or ethers to enter the club at that price. He talked half an hour. He never amiled even faintly. He seemed earnest and enthusiastic, and in consequence he was magnetic. He may be said to lave hypnotized the club. It was long after dinner, and the flow of good things and good spirits had not been interrupted for three hours. He was applauded again and again, and the clause was added to the constitution by a rising vote. It is in the constitution of the club to-day. Not a millionaire has come begging at the door with what kemble called his "baltry five hundred" in his hand. Not one ever will. In truth, the clause reads very queerly in cold blood.

Mr. Kemble is reported to have done a thing one day that would seem to pass belief if the were not vouched for by his friende, and if one did not know whit wonders are performed with innocent good nature. He and some friends were in a horse car on their way to the Academy of Design. The other occurants of the car were two deeps at the friend.

Mr. Kemble had two or three heart-shaped pieces of red card in his hand. He put a toothpick through one of

is instinctive, innerent, genuine, and overpowerin, opkinson Smith, the author, artist,
and busine-s man, whose novel, 'Col, Carter
of Carte-swille,' is now running in the thentry,
is known to a much wider circle than Mr.
Kemble because he has long been in demand
at notable dinner parties and has generously
devoted his mirth-making powers to charitable causes. Like Kemble and most of those
who are mentioned here, he is an American of the Americans, his great-grand-



P. HOPETHSON SMITH,



THEODORE H. LEE.

ble to describe. He has been known to keep a large excursion party in gay -pirits for a week at a ti-e, the last man to bed and the first one up in he morning, with an unbroken flow of merriment that has a magnetic quality which no man can rossis, and yet which defies an any man that has a magnetic quality which no man can rossis, and yet which defies an any man war and established the stream of the man and the stream of the man and the stream of the stream of





WILLIAM J. WAIL AS "STELLA."

William J. Wall, or "Billy Wall," as everybody call the second member of the Slaughter House Quartet, is a cousin of Berry Wall, and is in business with the old firm of William Wall's Sons, the cordage makers. He is best kn wn for his female impersonations. In the Seventh Regiment nobody believes that Amelia Glover or Olero can do a skirt dance in the same building with Wall. In comic opera his friends modestly say that if he is not the funniest man in the business, he is at least funniest man in the business, he is at least funniest man in the business, he is at least funniest man in the business, he is at least funniest man in the business, he is at least funniest than any woman. What woman for instance, would ever dream of saying what he did when he played Siela in Preston's musical farce of "Columbus?" He was the heroine and the lover was making love at high pressure—mad, irrepress-ble love. He was trying to give just a faint idea of the love that had burned in him since colidated. In the middle of his rhansody the girl elevated her eyes to the ceiling, and, assuming a devout face, called, as if to Heaven. "Oh, mother, give me strength." Wherever Wall played Siells last winter the people still talk of his demure, coy, girlish ways, his beautiful dancing, and his winsome face. Over in Brooklyn they gave him a solid silver loving cup filled with roses, they deluged him with flowers, and they encored him till he was tired out. His portrait shows that he makes up like a lovely girl, yet he is a particularly manly man. He is a good bover, a first-class shot with a rifle, and a good soldier. In private life he is noted for his tate in dress. He is a dandy without being a durie.

George G. Murray makes his best fun in Irish ballads and irish burleague work. Thin but of athletic build, he has the mobile face of a born comedian. His memory is so wonderful that it is nothing for him to go to the opening of Harrigan's new theatre and catch the





what he sees on the way to the place to which he is invited for an evening. His latest original songs are "Cinders," "McCue's Christening." and "Twas Dooley Raised the Fight." But "Drill, ye Tarriers, Drill," is not likely to be excelled, even by Tom Casey. Here are two verses of it, with a taste of his talk in between:

The new foreman is Dan McCann.
It tell ye, now, he's a blamed mean man
Last week a premainre blast went of
And a mile in the air went poor Jim God. Onosva—Drill, ye tarriera drill;
Drill, ye tarriera drill.
We warruk all day.
Widont sugar in our tay--Then drill, ye tarriera drill.

The second of the control of the con



CARL HAUSER.

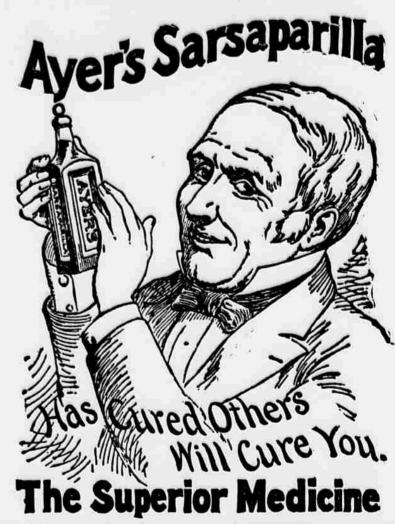
ministration of the second boxer, a find-classe life he is noted for his ti-te in dress. He is a deady without being a due! he best from in but of athletic build he has the mobile face of a born conseilan. His memory is so wonderful that its nothing for him to go to the opening of Harrigan and the case of the fight is nothing for him to go to the opening of Harrigan and the case of the him of the case of the fight and the derivation of the last of these funn takes. It is impossible of the last of these funn takes in the last of these funn takes. It is impossible of the last of the last of these funn takes and the last of the last of

MARCH to source

So runs the old adage. But if you take Ayer's Sarsaparilla during the months of March and April, the result in May will be all you could

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

purifies the blood, quickens the appetite, regulates the liver and kidneys, and gives increased and healthful activity to all the functions of life. If you suffer from Rheumatism, Indigestion, General Debility, or any other ailment needed is not merely stimula- perior Medicine.



find immediate relief in the tion, but natural and perma- | AYER'S Sarsaparilla is use of this remedy. Many nent strength. This is imparted a health-restorer and healthare in the habit of relying by the use of AYER'S maintainer. Its use makes upon stimulants when they Sarsaparilla. Hence it is every- food nourishing, work pleasfeel "run down." What is where recognized as the Su- ant, sleep refreshing, and life

enjoyable. Ask for

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Has cured others, will cure you

powders in little parcels of powder, which mean carried around in their pockets. It was a glorious sight to see a once wealthy brewer turned poor and mixing a powder in a tumber of water when he wanted a drink of beer. A sensational incident in 1901 was the passage of a bill limiting church services in 1901 to the hour between 11 and 12 o'clock on Sundars. The police were instructed to see that no church kept its side doors open after the noon hour. Senators Cantor, Blumenthal, and Levy fought like lions for the ouncrhes, but the bil passed in spite of them.

The above summary of the first half of Mr. Hauser's talk illustrates the humor of our German-American citizens, and by the originality of the points it contains shows why it is that Mr. Hauser is called "Carl, the inventive" or the finder terfinding). That is his tille in "the Schiaraffia," a scoret and humorous society of which he is a conspicuous member. A man has to be a very funny fellow to belong to it. It was founded in Frague about thirty-one years ago, and now has lodges in 100 cities in Europe and Australia, and even in Egypt. Its motto is "Pleasure with art." The New York chapter has fifty members and seel and mixing a picture appiece of music, a funny lecture, a book, or something eise that has amused the Schlaraffia.

Which he lives, and when he is asked how many winters he has seen casting joy coats upon the Passai tiver be a seen. Casting joy coats upon the Passai tiver he are proposed as upon the Passai tiver he assume than he was of composing a picture Appiece of music, a funny lecture, a book, or something eise that has amused the Schlaraffia.

Work whose scintilizations often amaze.

One of the most famous and witty men in New York whose scintilizations often amaze.

Yorker who has made himself generally known. "Stiles." said be, "is a man of shrinking modesty. It is only rarely that he can be gotten to talk, and then only to his friends. If you had heard him at the last New England dinner you would have been surprised. He was talking to a little knot of Yale men in a corner of the room after the main speeches were over. He was perfectly at home, and industed his eccentricity of what I mayball mental vision to the utmost. He sees things upside down and awry, and presents the simplest most ordinary matter in the strangest and most extraordinary ways. I have heard all the men who entertain their fellow New Yorkers, and can assy unhesitatingly that Stiles is the funniest of them all.

In the speech thus referred to Mr. Stiles spoke of "the Mugwump's tendency—to demonstrate independence by a dispassionale and unbiased loathing of his party." His talk was mainly on the Indian problem, and here is a part of the end of it. It proves to be with rather than funny, but as it is wit of a high order and as Mr. Stiles has not before been introduced to the public, a place is made for it here.

The sportive frontiersman, when asked why he shot indians, replied that he liked to see them jump. We may be sure that no Fortian ever names himself a series of the might be called the modern aphorism that "the only good ludian is the dead indian." He could never said a dead indian, I kauchter, it was the inving Indiana, with their wives and children, that he shipped to the Barbadoes and and in to lawery. This traffic might be called inhuman now, but the genius of Christian charity is lexible, and finds little trouble in adjusting itself to varring conditions. Early in colonial and the New Emilander Agend Indians would frumian no market for a single gallon ef Medford rum. Laurchter, and had been a line and the laurchter, and had been a line and the laurchter, and a humberded dead Indians would frumian no market for a single gallon ef Medford rum.

history samputo factories were running on any time and the New Emilander began to inflate the aboriginal currency. Laughter, A dead Indian seeds no circularizing medium' and a hundred dead Indians would furnish no market for a single gallon of Medford runn. It auchter the Purtant was even willing to take lessons of the live Indians in aris at which they were expert. Coming from the fat soils of husland and ito land, the sterile sands of Massaccusetts besiled his agricultural skill, and live Indians taught him to plant cyrn. three kernels in a nill, with three codies under each kernel, and to this day the mos-bunker is the base of all products as farming in New Eng and. Laughter, leading with ever body cless. The fundamental principle in this po ley was to love out or himself fors, and perhaps no eater plan than this has ever been devised for setting the Indian problem. I laughter, Self-protection for the state would mean the use of dovernment machinery to prepare the Indians for self-upporting lindustry. Under such a policy our tovernment would never have placed the fiscus indians on such agrontes as Rossbud and Pine these. With the hope of making fare when a policy our tovernment would never have placed the fiscus indians on such agrontes as Rossbud and Pine these. With the hope of making fare of an one produce gheat can make the products as it is an application. Under such a policy we should hardly create a tunning sold of the nation's week how the produce gheat can make the produce of the nation's week hold hardly create a tunning heat of the nation's wards. According to held it is no according to the nation's wards. According to help it urtain plant we should have a settled system of self-protection, and the nation is wards. According to help it urtain plant we should have a settled system of self-protection, and the nation is wards. According to help it is no according to the product of Cherry street. And it as according to the histories wards would soon be adjusting themselves to the nation's wards. Accor

many winters he has seen casting icy coats upon the Passaic river he replies, somewhat vaguely, perhaps, but with unshaken confidence." More'n a hundred, Boss." Nobody is justified in contradicting his assertion that he has entered upon his second century of existyears. He made a good living catching shad in the Passalo before the factories emptied sceptical people who argue that no centenarian, white or colored, could dance a hornpipe on a

extracts it from a tamborine, a banjo, or a jewsharp, as Old Bake certainly does.

But Old Bake, though very proud of his age, does not claim a wholly unbroken record. He believes that he died once and returned to life. It is the sum of the years of both existances that make him "more'n a hundred." He says he remembers quite well his sejourn in the spirit world and relates some remark.
able experiences in his disembodied state.

He sars he remembers quite well his spourn in the spirit world and relates some remarkable experiences in his dissembodied state.

Bake in a very small colored man. He sars that after he said closed his eyes in death is race, for he had search and he was fault at the same state of the said closed he was could be sare, for he had search hed he was fault at the same state of the said closed he was could be sare, for he had search hed he was fault at the same state of the same s

THE MARVELLOUS HUTCHESS.

An interesting Sheffield handlosp took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 10 and 11. It was the Shrovetide venture of Messra Morte and Company. The weather on the first day opened foggy and threatening, but toward the afternoon the clouds cleared away and quite Christmas handleaps, the Shrovetide events est amount of patronage. Harry Hutchens, the man, and the distance he actually covered was 122 yards. According to old Sheffield custom, the race was announced to be nominally 200 yards, and Hutchens got 78 yards' start. Hutchens was 36 years old on Feb. 27. He stands 5 feet 10% inches high, and weighed on

the day of his race 174 pounds in running

has been, it may be said that he has fairly set the seal upon his fame by winning this last time his fourth Sheffield handicap, equalling the performance of that veteran A. Williamson of Charlestown. Hutchens and William son are the only two men who have ever won victory was in the Christmas handleap of 1885. when he was 47 years old, but he had almost the top mark, while Hutchens's victories, with the exception of one. was off the virtual scratch. Hutchens's career may be said to have begun on March 5, 1878, when he won the Sheffield from the virtual scratch. The feat surprised every one, for he was then regarded as a nov-ice. So rapidly did he improve that at the corresponding meeting in the following year he won again in a heavy snow storm, in spite of which his time, in the language of Sheffield, was 4½ yards inside of evens. Thus, to run 125 yards in even. time the runner would have to do the distance in 125 reconds. When it is considered how year few automateurs are claim these runner would have the considered how year few automateurs. how very few amateurs can claim to have run Hutchens's chief performances can be gauged. Hutchens's third success was in 1882, also at Shrovetide, and here he surpassed everything that had previously been done at sprinting. and set a record that will take some beating. He was given the long starts, for Sheffield, of 9%, 10%, and 10% yards, himself running the distance of